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## **Wineries Recognized at the State's Most Prestigious Food and Wine Event of the Year**

*Best Wines From 2004 State Fair Commercial Wine Competition Also Announced*

**SACRAMENTO** – The California State Fair will honor the best winemakers, brewers and cheese makers in the state at the eighth annual California's Grape & Gourmet, the state's most prestigious food and wine event of the year.

"This is by far the largest gathering of award-winning wines presented for public tasting at one event in North America," said Michael Bradley, Chief, Bureau of Exhibits.

The event, which benefits the Friends of the California State Fair Scholarship Fund, will take place Thursday, July 15 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Cal Expo Buildings A and B. The public will get to taste medal-winning wines poured by 180 wineries from the 2004 California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition, the oldest and most prestigious wine competition in North America.

Admission to California's Grape & Gourmet includes wine and food tasting, as well as a free commemorative wineglass and plate. Wines will also be available for purchase by the case or bottle.

Ninety of the area's finest restaurants, recognized by the 2004 Diner's Choice Competition featured in Sacramento Magazine, will provide delicious food for the tasting.

At this year's Wine Competition, a record number of 2,926 wine entries were received from a record total of 596 wineries participating. Sixteen panels of four judges awarded 1,268 medals this year, consisting of 47 double gold, 191 gold, 472 silver, and 558 bronze medals. Award winners include:

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**Best of Region**

**Best Wine of North Coast Appellations (Tie)**

Navarro Vineyards, 2003 Gewürztraminer, Anderson Valley Mendocino  
La Crema Winery, 2001 Pinot Noir, Anderson Valley

**Best Wine of Sonoma Appellations**

Alexander Valley Vineyards, 2000 Cyrus, Alexander Valley

**Best Wine of Napa Appellations**

Bourassa Vineyards, 2001 Harmony 3, Napa Valley

**Best Wine of Greater Bay Appellations**

Crooked Vine Winery, 2001 Sangiovese, Livermore Valley

**Best Wine of North-Central Coast Appellations**

White Crane Winery, 2002 Reserve Zinfandel, Cienega Valley

**Best Wine of South-Central Coast Appellations**

Lafond Winery and Vineyard, 2002 SRH Syrah, Santa Rita Hills

**Best Wine of South Coast Appellations (Tie)**

Van Roekel Vineyards, 2003 Gewürztraminer, Temecula  
Orfila Vineyards, NV Lotus #123, San Pasqual Valley

**Best Wine of Sierra Foothills Appellations (Tie)**

Milliaire Winery, 2001 Syrah, Sierra Foothills  
Gold Hill Vineyard, 2001 Merlot, El Dorado

**Best Wine of Lodi Appellations**

Earthquake, 2002 Petite Sirah, Lodi

**Best Wine of Other California Appellations (Excluding Statewide)**

Runquist Wines, 2002 R Petite Sirah, Clarksburg

**Best Wine of California (State) Appellations**

Kendall-Jackson Vineyards, 2001 Vintner's Reserve Petite Sirah, California

**Best of California**

**Best Barbera of California**

Sunset Cellars, 2002 S Barbera, Twin Creeks Vineyard, Napa Valley

**Best Sparkling Wine of California (Tie)**

Gloria Ferrer Champagne Caves, NV Methode Champenoise Blanc de Noirs, Sonoma  
County

Korbel Champagne, 2001 Methode Champenoise Natural, Russian River Valley

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**Best Bordeaux Blend of California**

Alexander Valley Vineyards, 2000 Cyrus, Alexander Valley

**Best Cabernet Franc of California**

Peju Province, 2001 Province Cabernet Franc, Napa Valley

**Best Cabernet Sauvignon of California**

Cosentino Winery, 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon, Napa Valley

**Best Chardonnay of California (Tie)**

Benziger Family Winery, 2002 Chardonnay, Carneros  
Sullivan Birney Winery & Vineyards, 2002 Chardonnay, Sonoma Coast

**Best Gewürztraminer of California**

Sutter Home Winery, 2003 Gewürztraminer, California

**Best Merlot of California**

Blackstone Winery, 2002 Merlot, Napa Valley

**Best Muscat of California (Tie)**

Fresno State Winery, 2001 Muscat Canelli, John Diener Vineyard, Fresno County  
St. Supéry Vineyards, 2003 Moscato, California

**Best Petite Sirah of California**

Runquist Wines, 2002 R Petite Sirah, Salman Vineyard, Clarksburg

**Best Pinot Grigio of California**

Monteviña Winery, 2003 Pinot Grigio, California

**Best Pinot Noir of California (Tie)**

David Bruce Winery, 2002 Pinot Noir, Sonoma Coast  
Rodney Strong Vineyards, 2001 Reserve Pinot Noir, Jane's Vineyard, Russian River Valley

**Best Red Generic of California**

V. Sattui Winery, 2001 Sattui Family Red Generic, California

**Best Riesling of California (Tie)**

V. Sattui Winery, 2003 Off Dry Johannisberg Riesling, Napa Valley  
Herzog Wine Cellars, 2003 Late Harvest Johannisberg Riesling, Monterey County

**Best Sangiovese of California**

Lookout Ridge Winery, 2001 Alta Coma Sangiovese, Mendocino

**Best Sauvignon Blanc of California**

Wildhurst Vineyards, 2003 Reserve Sauvignon Blanc, Lake County

**Best Syrah of California**

Rosenblum Cellars, 2002 Syrah, England-Shaw Vineyard, Solano County

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**Best Viognier of California**  
Jewel Collection, 2003 Viognier, California

**Best Zinfandel of California**  
Earthquake, 2002 Zinfandel, Lodi

Golden Winery and Best of Show Award winners will be announced at California's Grape & Gourmet.

Additionally, the 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to California Winegrowing Pioneer Robert Young at the Grape & Gourmet event. The award recognizes an individual who has contributed extensively over a number of years to the promotion, advancement, and growth of the wine industry.

Complete results of the 2004 California State Fair Commercial Wine Competition are available online at [www.bigfun.org](http://www.bigfun.org). Results are also available beginning August 20 in California Wine. A copy of this magazine is available at the Albertsons Wine Country at the Fair or on the Fair's web site.

Advanced tickets to California's Grape & Gourmet are \$50 and may be purchased online at [www.bigfun.org](http://www.bigfun.org), or by calling the Cal Expo Box Office at (916) 263-3049. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$60 and parking is \$7. Don't miss this always exciting, fun and festive event!

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